

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kikuo OKUYAMA et al.                      Art Unit: 3754  
Application No.: 10/521,173                      Examiner: Bainbridge, A.  
Title: AEROSOL PARTICLE CHARGING DEVICE  
International Application No.: PCT/JP2003/009055  
International Filing Date                      : July 16, 2003  
Priority Date                                      : July 17, 2002  
U.S. Filing Date                                 : January 14, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

AND

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicants request that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner.

Enclosed also please find a copy of the Supplementary European Search Report which was mailed on June 30, 2008 from the European Patent Office in a related application. The relevance of two new references can be seen from the Supplementary European Search Report. The English abstract of the European reference is also enclosed.

Please also note that U.S. Patent No. 6,429,426 is the English language counterpart for European Patent Application Publication No. EP 1070960.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(c) after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action under § 1.113.

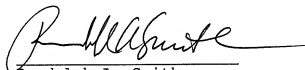
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It is hereby certified that each of the items of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date hereof.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

If there are any questions regarding this application, please telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: August 7, 2008

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